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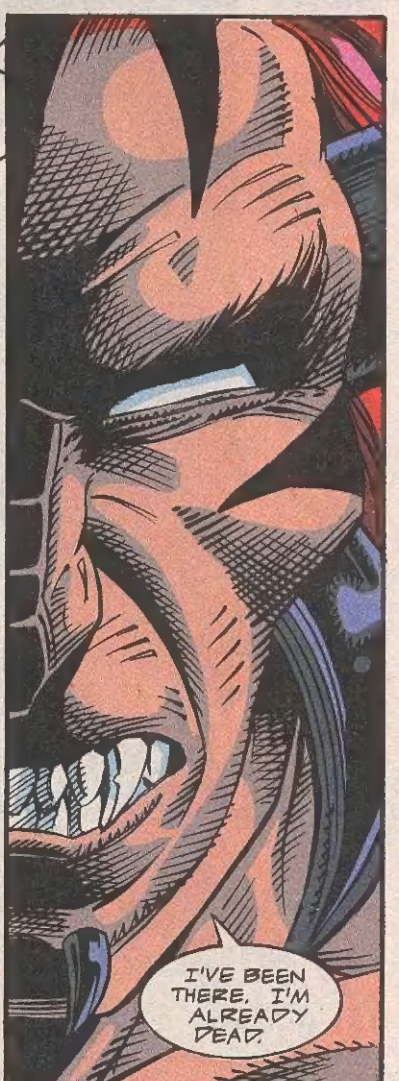
OH, A PHILOSOPHER! WE DON'T SEND MANY OF THOSE TO BIOZONE ONE.
'CAUSE THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE GOING, FREAK...YOU AND ALL THOSE BARRIO DECREDS WHO INFEST OUR WORLD.

UNAUTHORIZED BREEDING RESULTS IN AUTHORIZED EXTERMINATION.
AND DRESSING UP LIKE SOME OLD HERO WON'T SAVE ANY OF YOU FROM DYING ON HELLROCK.



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For The HaCsA Halloween Flood 2002

PAT MILLS AND TONY SKINNER STORY

GRANT MIEHM PENCILS

KEITH WILLIAMS INKS

PHIL FELIX LETTERS

GINA GOING COLORS

JOEY CAVALIERI EDITOR

TOM DEFALCO EDITOR IN CHIEF

RAVAGE 2099 CREATED BY STAN LEE AND PAUL RYAN

REBIRTH OF THE BEAST!

YOU WANT TO DO IT THE HARD WAY, HERO?!
WHAT--? I DIDN'T EVEN FEEL THAT.
SMEG IT! THAT'S SOME MASK YOU'VE GOT THERE!
YOU LIKE IT...?
TRY IT FOR SIZE!

THE DECREES... BARRIO MAN... THEY'RE MY FRIENDS.
WHEN MY BODY BIOCRASHED --WHEN I TRANSFORMED INTO WHATEVER IT IS I AM, THEY TOOK ME IN...
...AND I'M NOT GOING TO TURN MY BACK ON THEM.
THEY'RE HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED--THE FULL MIGHT OF THE ECO-POLICE IS MOVING AGAINST THEM...
...ONLY A FOOL WOULD GET INVOLVED.
OR A HERO.
MAYBE BARRIO MAN AND HIS CODEX HEROICA ARE RIGHT... MAYBE THE HERO PROPHECIES DO CONCERN ME...
AND I AM PART OF THE RETURN OF THE HEROIC AGE...
...GOT TO DO SOMETHING BEFORE THE BARRIO WEDDING BECOMES A FUNERAL.

WE SWEAR ON THE CODEX HEROICA -- THE SACRED BOOK OF OUR COMMUNITY -- THAT WE WILL HONOR THE WAYS OF THE HEROES OF OLD...
CODEX HEROICA
THE WAYS OF IRON MAN... SHE-HULK... THE HUMAN TORCH... THE SCARLET WITCH...
I WILL BE A MOTHER AND RAISE MY CHILDREN AS HEROES.
THOUGH MANY WILL DIE YOUNG BECAUSE OF THE BIG CORPORATIONS THAT RULE THIS WORLD.
I WILL BE A FATHER... MY SONS AND DAUGHTERS WILL FOLLOW ME IN THE WAYS OF THE BARRIO.
BRING FORTH THE SYMBOLS OF THE ENEMY...

THE PRODUCTS OF THE CORPORATIONS WHO OPPRESS US...
"ALCHEMAX DESIGNER DRUGS THAT PACIFY THE POPULATION...
"OUR PEACE COMES FROM WITH-IN.
"SYNTHIA FOODS AND THEIR BACTERIA PRODUCTS--FIT ONLY FOR SYNTHETIC PEOPLE.
"WE EAT WHAT WE GROW.
SYNTHIA
"STARK-FUJIKAWA HOLOPHONES AND V.R. MACHINES... WITH THEIR HIDEOUS RETRO STYLING...
"OUR FIGHT FOR SURVIVAL IS REAL AND WE RECYCLE OUR MACHINES.
"I WILL DRINK ONLY THE WATER FROM THE SKY--SO MY BODY WILL PRODUCE CHILDREN TO FIGHT ON WHEN I DIE.
"NEVER THE CITY WATER WITH ITS CONTRACEPTIVE CHEMICALS."

CONSPIRACY TO BREED WITHOUT A PERMIT! THAT'S A CLASS "A" CRIME!
TWENTY YEARS ON HELLROCK FOR ALL OF YOU!
ECO-POLICE!
THEY WON'T LAST TWENTY MINUTES THERE!
TRY DRINKING THE RAINWATER THERE, DECREDS!
THEY'VE GOT YOUR HONEYMOON SUITE BOOKED ON HELLROCK... DETHSTRYK LOVES BLUSHING BRIDES!
BARRIO MAN... PLEASE... PROTECT US...
TRUST IN THE UNIVERSE, MY CHILD... IT WILL ALWAYS FIND A WAY TO PROTECT US.
YOU FAT CLOWN!
THE UNIVERSE IS ON MY SIDE... SURVIVAL OF THE TOUGHEST! IT HAS NO TIME FOR SCUM WHO BREED IN THE MUD LIKE RATS!
WAK!

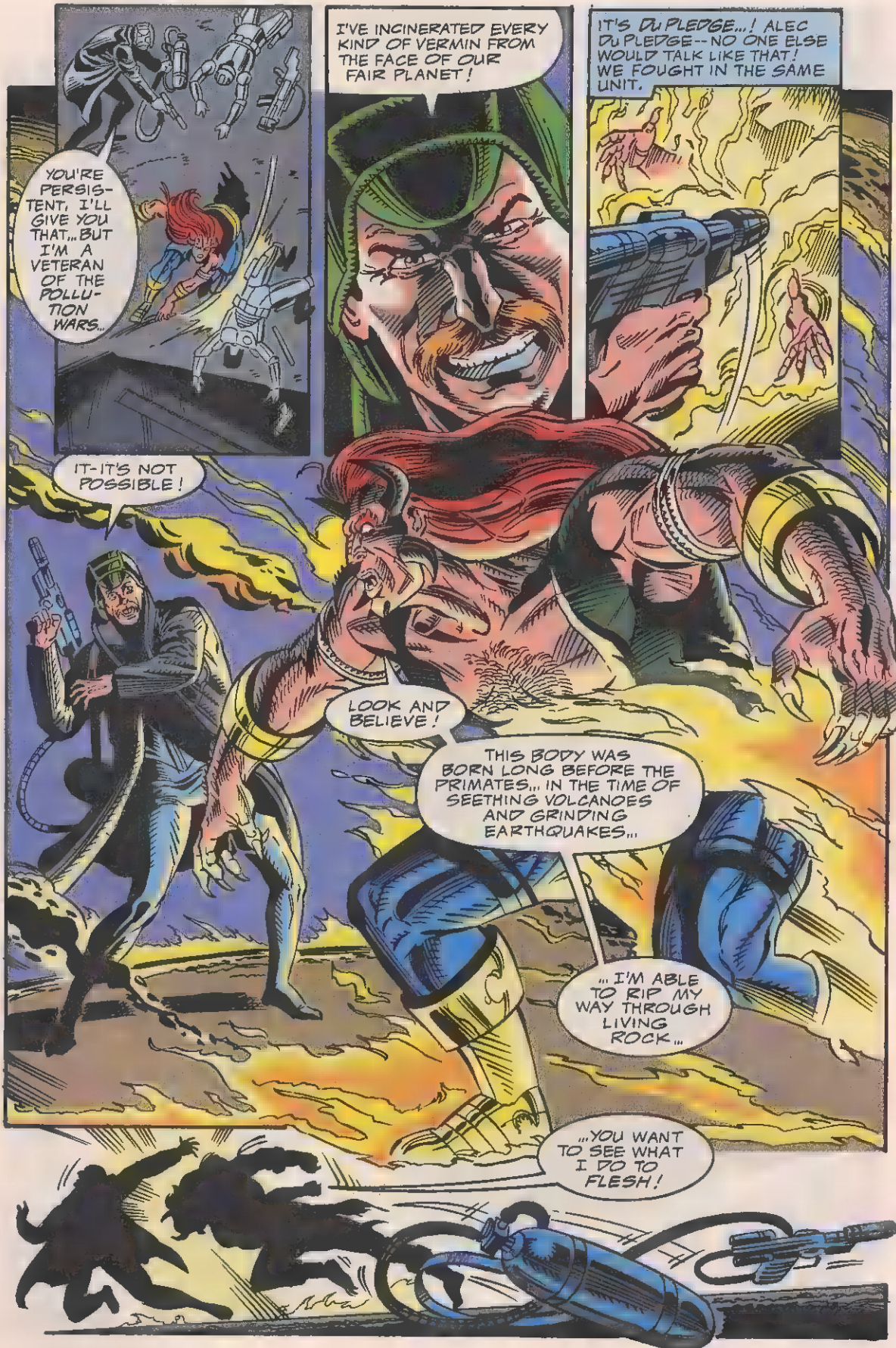
OKAY-- GET THIS GARBAGE OUT OF HERE!
I DO THIS JOB FOR MONEY-- BUT YOU GET THE FEELING DUPLEDGE WOULD DO IT FOR FREE!
HE REALLY HATES THESE GUYS!
SARGE... WHAT SORT OF ANIMAL IS THAT?
DON'T KNOW. WE'LL CHECK IT OUT AFTER WE RUN IT OVER.

WHATEVER YOU ARE -- YOU'RE DEAD!
GORING TIME!
GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE...
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO ME WHILE I WAS RAKING THOSE GUYS... THE BEAST TOOK CONTROL...
AND I REALLY ENJOYED EVERY SECOND OF IT!

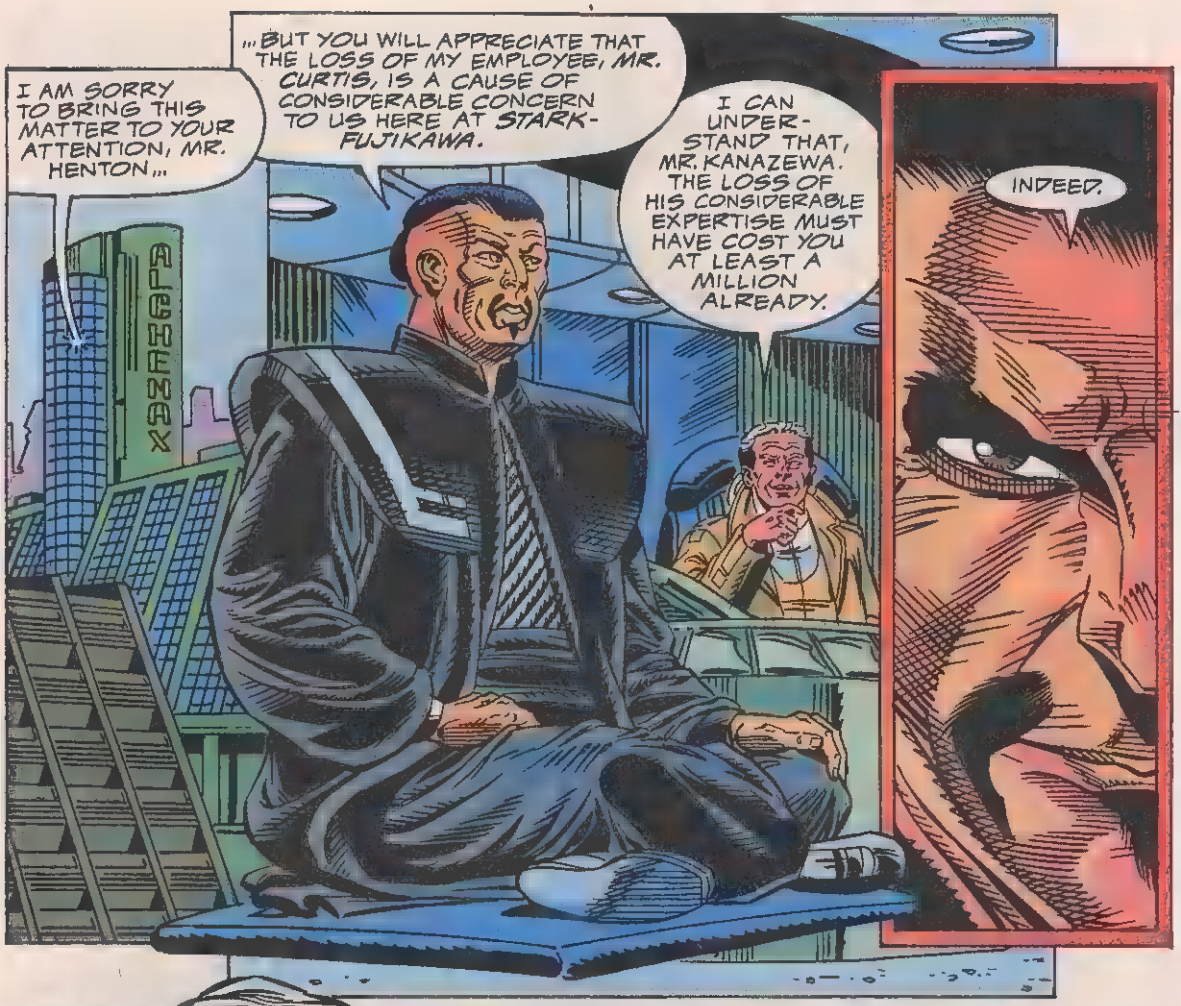
WHAT THE SHOCK'S GOING ON UP FRONT? WHY HAVE WE STOPPED?
OH, MY G--!
OH, NO... NO... NO...
HUUEEY!
PULL YOURSELVES TOGETHER, MEN—YOU'RE ACTING LIKE SCHOOLGIRLS.
SORRY, SIR... IT'S NOT EVERY DAY YOU SEE YOUR FRIENDS WITH THEIR GUTS HANGING OUT.
I SEE... IT CAME IN THROUGH THE FRONT GLASS... WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL COULD...
GRAOWWL!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT SORT OF MAN OR BEAST YOU ARE... OR HOW YOU DID THAT TO MY MEN...
...BUT YOU'RE ONE MORE FREAK THE PLANET CAN DO WITHOUT!
OPEN FIRE!
UUUUHHHH!
SWEEP HIS REMAINS OFF THE ROAD!

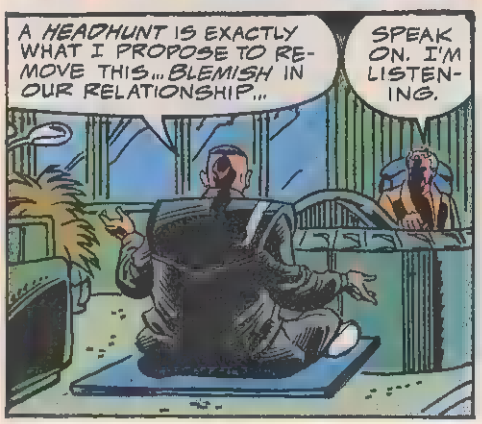
STRANGE... FOR A MOMENT BACK THERE I THOUGHT I KNEW THAT MAN OR WHATEVER IT WAS...
SIR--YOU'D BETTER LOOK AT THIS... HIS WOUNDS ARE CLOSING UP REAL FAST... HE'S STARTING TO--
RRROARRR!
AAAGHH!


YOU'RE PERSISTENT, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT... BUT I'M A VETERAN OF THE POLLUTION WARS...
I'VE INCINERATED EVERY KIND OF VERMIN FROM THE FACE OF OUR FAIR PLANET!
IT'S DU PLEDGE...! ALEC DU PLEDGE--NO ONE ELSE WOULD TALK LIKE THAT! WE FOUGHT IN THE SAME UNIT.
IT-IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!
LOOK AND BELIEVE!
THIS BODY WAS BORN LONG BEFORE THE PRIMATES... IN THE TIME OF SEETHING VOLCANOES AND GRINDING EARTHQUAKES...
... I'M ABLE TO RIP MY WAY THROUGH LIVING ROCK...
...YOU WANT TO SEE WHAT I DO TO FLESH!

WE FOUGHT ON THE SAME SIDE ONCE... I CAN'T JUST SLICE HIM UP.
I DO KNOW HIM... I'M SURE I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE...
AND HOW DARE HE LET ME LIVE! IT WAS MY TIME -- I FELT IT.
I HAVE TO FIND OUT WHO THAT CREATURE IS... AND EXACT RETRIBUTION UPON HIM!
WE THANK YOU, RAVAGE... BUT WE WOULD RATHER YOU HAD NOT KILLED. IT WAS NOT THE WAY OF THE HEROES OF OLD...
YEAH -- WELL, I'M NOT A HERO OF OLD... ALTHOUGH IT SEEMS YOU'RE RIGHT AND I AM A HERO.
AND IF I'M GONNA STOP THIS, I'LL HAVE TO DO IT AT ITS SOURCE...
THAT DISC I LIFTED FROM HENTON...
IF I CAN GET IT BACK TO GREEN GLOBE -- THE FAMILY BUSINESS -- I CAN LOAD IT IN THEIR MAINFRAME...
... FIND THE BEST WAY TO BRING HENTON... ALCHEMAX... AND THE WHOLE SHOW DOWN!


I AM SORRY TO BRING THIS MATTER TO YOUR ATTENTION, MR. HENTON...
...BUT YOU WILL APPRECIATE THAT THE LOSS OF MY EMPLOYEE, MR. CURTIS, IS A CAUSE OF CONSIDERABLE CONCERN TO US HERE AT STARK-FUJIKAWA.
I CAN UNDERSTAND THAT, MR. KANAZEWA. THE LOSS OF HIS CONSIDERABLE EXPERTISE MUST HAVE COST YOU AT LEAST A MILLION ALREADY.
INDEED.
ATHENAX

AND STARK-FUJIKAWA NEVER HEADHUNTS, I SUPPOSE? HA, HA.
BAD LUCK. GOODBYE.
ONE MOMENT, MR. HENTON...

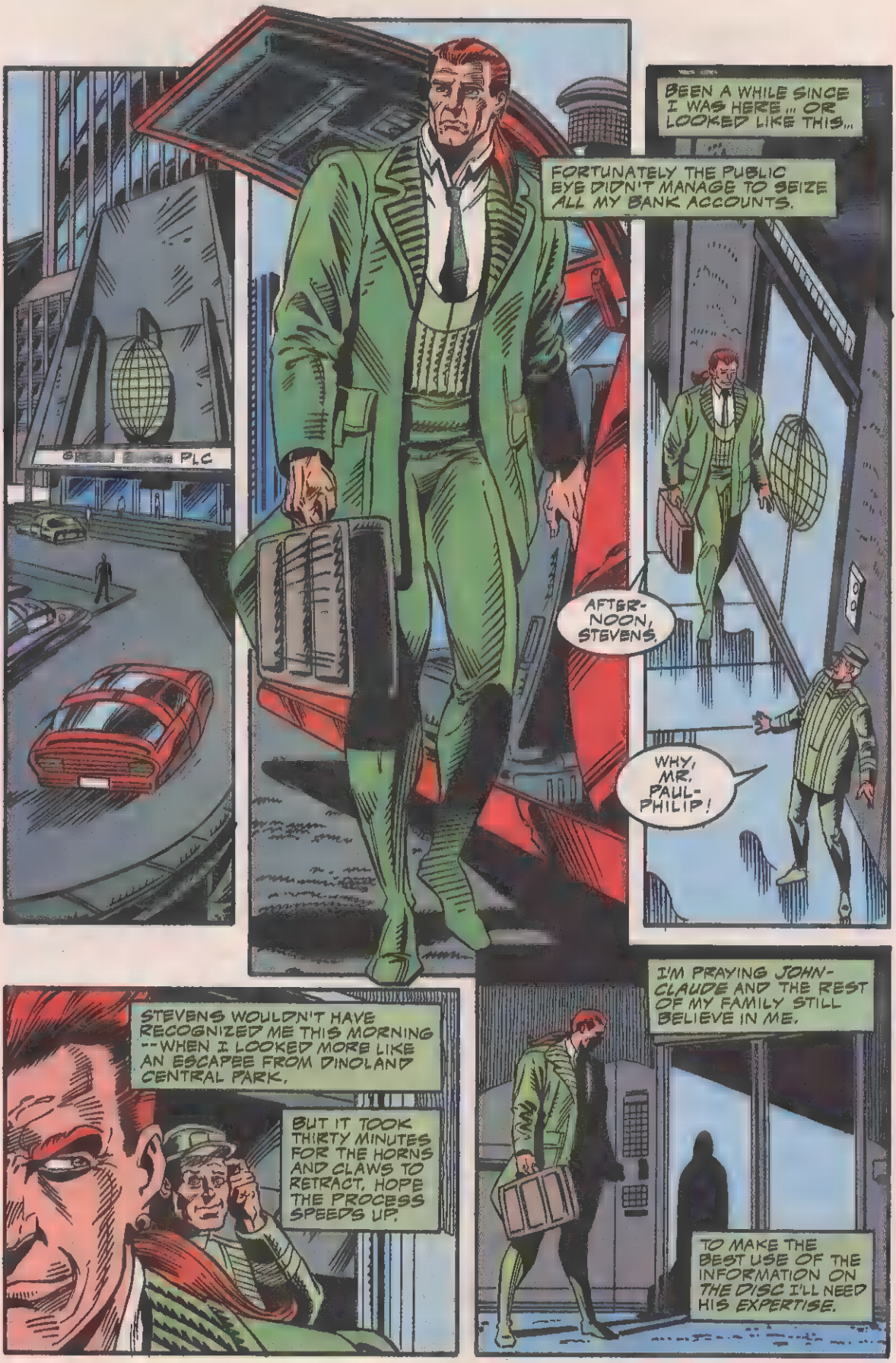

A HEADHUNT IS EXACTLY WHAT I PROPOSE TO REMOVE THIS... BLEMISH IN OUR RELATIONSHIP...
SPEAK ON. I'M LISTENING.

THE HEAD OF MR. CURTIS TO [redacted] PRECISE!
LET ME BE BLUNT -- HOW MUCH ARE YOU OFFERING THE TRAITOR?
200K A YEAR AND COMPANY FLYER.

STARK-FUJIKAWA WILL PAY ALCHEMAX BOK... PLUS ALL THE INFORMATION HE WOULD HAVE TRAITOROUSLY GIVEN YOU COMPANY TO COMPANY, SYSTEM TO SYSTEM...
IF YOU WILL HAND HIM BACK TO US FOR... DISCIPLINE.
TELL YOU WHAT, YUKIO, MAKE THAT A 100K AND WE'LL TAKE HIM OUT OF THE LOOP FOR YOU.
ANDERTHORP... AS ALWAYS IT'S A PLEASURE DOING BUSINESS WITH YOU. SAYONARA.
TAPPETY TAP
TOP DRAWER-- OPEN.

THE WONDERS OF ALIEN TECHNOLOGY... THESE SENSOIDS ARE UNBELIEVABLE.
THE FEARMASTER'S STAR FRIENDS HAVE PACKED INSIDE IT SENSORY FACSIMILES OF THE MOST VICIOUS PREDATORS IN THE GALAXY...
...AS RAVAGE AND HIS FAMILY WILL SOON DISCOVER...
HOWEVER, SOMETHING A LITTLE LESS OSTENTATIOUS IS REQUIRED TO GAIN ACCESS TO MR. CURTIS...
NOW LET ME SEE WHAT'S IN DEREK CURTIS'S PERSONNEL FILE... AH... MOM... PERFECT.
SENSOID-- FACSIMILE ON.
MR. HENTON... WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
WELL, MOM... I'D LIKE YOU TO GO AND MURDER YOUR SON DEREK.

MATT MORRA APARTMENTS
OOPS! SORRY, MA'AM.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, SONNY.
D. CURTIS
DEREK-- YOUR MOM'S AT THE DOOR.
DOMESTI-COMP II
MOM...? WHAT'S SHE DOING HERE...?! THOUGHT SHE WAS IN FLORIDA.
NEVER MIND ME— YOU'RE LOOKING A LITTLE PEAKY, DEAR... LET ME TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT YOU.
MOM... IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU... AND YOUR LEG'S BETTER.
D. CURTIS
MOM...? OH, NO...! MAAAAAGGH!


PLC
BEEN A WHILE SINCE I WAS HERE ... OR LOOKED LIKE THIS...
FORTUNATELY THE PUBLIC EYE DIDN'T MANAGE TO SEIZE ALL MY BANK ACCOUNTS.
AFTER-NOON, STEVENS.
WHY, MR. PAUL-PHILIP!
I'M PRAYING JOHN-CLAUDE AND THE REST OF MY FAMILY STILL BELIEVE IN ME.
TO MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE INFORMATION ON THE DISC I'LL NEED HIS EXPERTISE.
STEVENS WOULDN'T HAVE RECOGNIZED ME THIS MORNING --WHEN I LOOKED MORE LIKE AN ESCAPEE FROM DINOLAND CENTRAL PARK.
BUT IT TOOK THIRTY MINUTES FOR THE HORNS AND CLAWS TO RETRACT. HOPE THE PROCESS SPEEDS UP.

BULLPEN MARVEL COMICS BULLETINS

RAZORLINE NOTES

These are strange days in the world of comics. Today there are new universes popping up like mushrooms at the base of a mighty oak. Some of them are ornate with beautiful, vibrant colors, others so formless and bland so as to be virtually indistinguishable from the masses. Some leak poison into the tree, while others lend support.

We've gone a step beyond. We've planted anew.

It's a fledgling universe, birthed from the fertile imagination of Clive Barker, and nurtured by a group of the most enthusiastic and talented newcomers to hit comics in the past ten years. It's the power of the *fantastique* brought to its farthest limits, and beyond; raw adventure, with an edge. We call it the Razorline.

The Razorline is the culmination of Clive's greatest passions — mystery, fantasy, and fable, mixed with generous helpings of the super heroic action that made Marvel famous. Each branches out beyond the farthest limits of *what is*, into the darkest, most exciting regions of *what could be*. The leaves weave intricately together to form the fabric of the Decamundi, ten fantastic worlds whose interaction and conflict form the core of the Barkerverse. Good and Evil; Order and Chaos; Life and Death; all opposites contesting for dominance, with a paltry planet known as Earth at their nexus. All of this, and more, under the direction of one of today's most creative talents, all striving to make certain the Razorline titles are like nothing else you've ever seen.

And what great new life will grow from here! Creatures and mythologies undreamt of, side by side with technologies beyond your most fevered imaginings. Even as you read this, the growth continues — with a major crossover planned for later this year, leading into a launch of several more titles in '94.

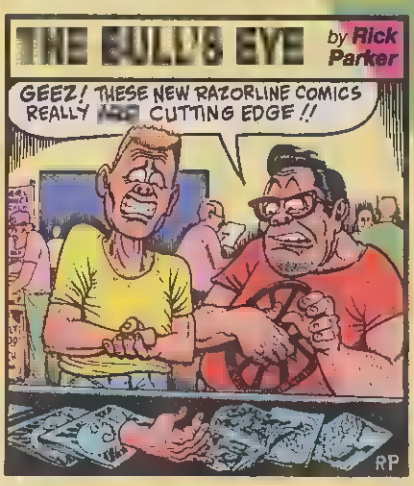
The seed's been planted — now it's up to you to grab on, and enjoy the ride. Strange days, indeed.

— Marcus McLaurin

The phrase "cutting edge comics" takes on a whole new meaning this month with the debut of the **Razorline** — four new monthly super hero titles created by that ol' Hellraiser himself, **Clive Barker.**

The Razorline books — HYPERKIND, ECTOKID, HOKUM & HEX, and SAINT SINNER — were created by the Clivesdale, and then it was up to Epic-urial editor **Marc McLaurin** to cut the deck and deal them out to various creative teams.

The first slash from the Razorline Universe is HYPERKIND, from those creative cut-ups **Fred Burke, Ron Cullins,** and **Bob Petrecca.** Writer Fred describes



HYPERKIND as "a teen-age super-team of the 90s. It owes more to X-FORCE than it does to NIGHTBREED." Fred has had much experience tapping the veins of Clive Barker in the past, through various adaptations and a coffee table book or two. (Fred is hard at work on the sequel to his *Clive Barker: Illustrator* hardcover.). Fred says that Poison Clive-y is heavily involved with the Razorline books. "He's as serious about these comics as he is about his major motion pictures."

The next sliver from the straight edge of the MacCliver's imagination is ECTOKID, from those razor-sharp rapscallions, **James Robinson** (writer, issues #1-3), **Larry Wachowski** (writer, issue #4-on), **Steve Skroce,** and **Bob Dvorak.** ECTOKID is about a dead kid named Dex who can travel back and forth into the land of the dead. Penciler Steve, enjoying his first ever monthly series, describes ECTOKID as "dark fantasy/adventure with a little bit of horror." Steve notes that ECTOKID is a challenging assignment. "I'm trying to push myself creatively. In drawing the Ectosphere, there are no rules! It's all imagination! Any project I do after this will be a cinch!"

Next we have HOKUM & HEX, which does not feature characters by either of those names. The series, by those cut-throat creators, **Frank Lovece, Anthony Williams,** and **Andy Lanning,** is about a failed stand-up comic named Trip Monroe who becomes Earth's champion against invading hordes. Trip has the power to transform things, but his power often backfires, much like one of Marvel's past brushes with Hollywood. HOKUM & HEX will be a lighthearted book, featuring close shaves with demonic rubber chickens and sinister snapdragons. Writer Frank says HOKUM & HEX could best be described as "Aliens meets Dr. Strange meets Comedy Central."

The final cut from the Razorline is SAINT SINNER, a slice of demonic life from **Elaine Lee** and **Max Douglas,** which writer Elaine describes as "the weirdest of four very weird books!" SAINT SINNER is the book that answers the question, how many angels can dance on Pinhead's head before their souls are torn apart? Actually, SAINT SINNER is about a normal 16-year old boy who is possessed by both a devil and an angel! Saint Sinner stands between the warring factions of Heaven and Hell, doing his best to answer people's prayers. The prayers of the readers will be answered as the books of the Barkerverse cross over, and more Barker-ific books are added in the future.

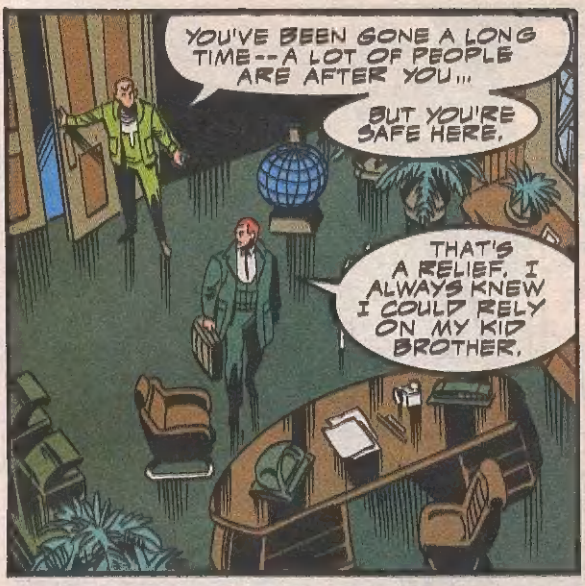
Editor Marcus noted that "each Razorline book is unique in its own way. Some are humorous, some are mystical ... Everyone has complete freedom to be creative." Marcus feels that the Razorline heroes are a cut above the rest because "they come from the mind of Clive Barker."

Till next time, remember, you may not be able to get a shave and a haircut for two bits any more, but for only 18 bits a pop, you can get a cut from the Razorline!

HYPERLINES ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **ALPHA FLIGHT #124:** INFINITY CRUSADE crossover!
- ☐ **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #381:** What's the deal with Peter's parents?
- ☐ **MILESTONE #1:** It was thirty years ago today ...
- ☐ **BARBIE** Barbie saves Christie's dress design!
- ☐ **DAREDEVIL/BLACK WIDOW NOVEL: ABATTOIR:** *Jim Starlin* and *Joe Chiodo* present a totally mental adventure!
- ☐ **DARKHOLD #12:** The price for lost love: soul!
- ☐ **GHOST #41:** What's the connection between GR and Blaze?
- ☐ **OF THE GALAXY** Moon mayhem with **Loki, Thor,** and the **Inhumans!**
- ☐ **#1:** The premiere of Clive Barker's *Razorline* universe!
- ☐ **LETHAL FOES OF SPIDER-MAN #1 OF** Once they deadly — now they're
- ☐ **MIDNIGHT OF 4:** *Howard Chaykin's* limited series concludes!
- ☐ **MORBIUS 2 OF 5:** More fangs for the memories — with **Helleyes!**
- ☐ **NIGHT** From the pages of WOLVERINE comes ... grin!
- ☐ **OFFCASTES # 3 OF 3:** This *Heavy Hitter* packs quite a wallop!
- ☐ **PENDRAGON 2 #15:** Pendragon 2 plus Death's Head 2 equals ... uh, Penhead 4?
- ☐ **PUNISHER ZONE** Wolverine disrupts the **Architect's** plans!
- ☐ **QUASAR** SPECIAL FOIL COVER! SILVER SURFER! MAN-THING! It's a quantum leap above the rest!
- ☐ **RAVAGE 2099 #10:** If I told you once, I told you 2099 times ...!
- ☐ **SABRETOOTH # 2 OF 4:** Son of a gun! **Wolverine** pops in!
- ☐ **SECRET DEFENDERS #7:** With **Spider-Man, Captain America,** and the **Scarlet Witch!**
- ☐ **SABLE #16:** INFINITY CRUSADE CROSSOVER with the **Intruders!**
- ☐ **SLEEPWALKER #28:** Introducing **Psyko** — he gives Sleepy nightmares!
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR** Meet **Nocturne** — she'll have you talking in your sleep!
- ☐ Virtual Reality versions of Spidey's greatest foes!
- ☐ **WOLVERINE #73:** Wolvie and Gambit want to down **X-Cutioner!**
- ☐ SPECIAL COVER! DOUBLE-SIZED! NEW COSTUME! It's wonderific!
- ☐ **X-FACTOR Random** is hired to kill Polaris!
- ☐ **X-MEN ADVENTURES #11: Apocalypse** unleashes Archangel!

ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT ME TO DUMP THIS PLANT IN THE RECYCLER, MR. JOHN-CLAUDE?
YOU HEARD ME. JUST DO IT.
VERY GOOD, SIR.
CLOSE THE DOOR ON YOUR WAY OUT.
WILL THAT BE ALL, SIR?
NO. LIKE I SAID BEFORE, CLOSE THE DOOR ON YOUR WAY OUT.
OH, MR. PAUL-PHILIP! IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
CERTAINLY HAS, BAKER.
JOHN-CLAUDE, I HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME DROPPING IN LIKE THIS.
NOT AT ALL, PAUL -- GOOD TO SEE YOU.


YOU'VE BEEN GONE A LONG TIME--A LOT OF PEOPLE ARE AFTER YOU...
BUT YOU'RE SAFE HERE.
THAT'S A RELIEF. I ALWAYS KNEW I COULD RELY ON MY KID BROTHER.

LOOK, JOHN... I'VE GOT SOMETHING HERE THAT CAN BE USED TO CLEAR MY NAME... BUT I NEED YOUR HELP...
AN ALCHEMAX SECURITY DISC...! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH IT?

IT'S GOT ALL THE DIRT ON ALCHEMAX--THE WAY THEY'RE TRASHING THIS PLANET... GREEN GLOBE CAN USE THIS!

WE MOST CERTAINLY CAN.
GIVE ME THE DISC, PAUL-PHILIP.

YEAH... ER--SURE, NO PROBLEM.

GO HOME... SEE DAD AND MIRANDA... THEY'VE BEEN MISSING YOU... I'LL CATCH UP WITH YOU LATER.
THANKS, JOHN.

WAIT A MINUTE...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, BUT... YOU'RE NOT REAL! I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON--BUT MY BROTHER'S DEAD...
PAUL--YOU'RE RAVING. GO HOME... REST.
SNFF! SNFF!
MY BROTHER'S IN THE GARBAGE CHUTE!
YES...
...AS YOU WILL BE!
NEXT:
THE STIGMATA EFFECT!

RANTS & RAVES

JOEY CAVALIERI — EDITOR
MATTHEW MORRA — ASSISTANT EDITOR
c/o MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016
ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO UPON REQUEST.

Out Of My Head

***Jurassic Park: Westworld* with dinosaurs.**

***Cliffhanger: Rocky*, the flying squirrel.**

***The Last Action Hero:* Woody Allen had this idea first.**

Comic books: still your best entertainment value.

Dear Joey and Matt,

RAVAGE 2099 is the best Marvel 2099 of them all. I especially liked #6 and I'm glad you used the Fantastic Four's hovercraft. I am also happy that Ravage complimented Reed Richards, without even knowing it.

I think Ravage should get an attachment for his eye piece which fires some kind of blast. What is Ravage going to do about his hands? Also, are Doom and Dethstryk going to meet? Are you going to show anything about Ravage's parents?

Until Conan destroys the universe, Make Mine Marvel!

Ben Camp
5206 Tilbury Way
Balto, MD 21212

As a matter of fact, Ben, Pat and Tony have been dealing quite a bit with Ravage's family tree in recent issues. Thanks for the suggestion of the eye piece, but we have a feeling Ravage won't be needing it soon!

Dear Joey and Matt,

I don't know what keeps me coming back to RAVAGE: is it Stan Lee's pulse-pounding, action-packed stories? Or is it the wonderful and clear artwork by Paul Ryan and Keith Williams? I would guess that it's a combination of the two, and that combination makes RAVAGE clearly the best of the 2099 books.

While all of the books are favorites of mine, RAVAGE has a slight cut above the others. #8 demonstrated this with "The Vengeance of Dragonklaw!" Stan the Man has obviously retained his classical style of storytelling and injected it with a modern dose of adrenaline to create the fast-paced world of Paul-Philip Ravage. In 7 issues, his life has been turned upside down. I never saw Ravage as "a Punisher that talked like Ben Grimm" as many readers and fans apparently did. Paul was never a vengeance-driven vigilante and while his speech manner did resemble the Thing's, I never thought of it that way. Ravage's visit to Hellrock was fascinating and a turbulent ride for us, too. Since he arrived, he's gained super powers (a great move which will only make Ravage more interesting) but has had to ignore the matters at Alchemax, the organization whose bosses make "J. Jonah Jameson look like Aunt May," as Fred Hembeck put it.

Yet every good book must have a supporting cast. RAVAGE and SPIDER-MAN 2099 both have the strongest supporting players, and in this case, those characters seem to be every bit as interesting as the hero. Tiana is not a "damsel in distress" and Dack is certainly not Robin to Ravage's Batman.

The artwork in RAVAGE is also topnotch. Paul Ryan and Keith Williams, along with teammates Gina and Phil, make the visual look of Ravage as exciting as the verbal part. While I'll miss Paul, I am eagerly looking forward to Grant Miehm's fill-in. Miehm was a great artist when he did books for DC. His style is different than Paul's, yet I can picture it perfectly on Ravage and Co.

Finally, I always say that controversy should spawn from letter pages. I have a few numbered comments, rather than questions:

1) Don't make Ravage a Punisher-type, as Bill Glenapp wants. That's a poor trend in comics I hope ends soon. The world has enough crazed lunatics. You can fight crime "vigorously" without being an outlawed vigilante.

2) A "Ravage and the Savage Crew?" AAARGH! Tiana and Dack are quite enough for me.

3) A crossover? I'm looking forward to it, but please don't go overboard. I'd prefer more towards the 1960s AVENGERS than the 1990s X-MEN.

Joey Marchese
P.O. Box 2197
Union, NJ 07083-2197

Looks like Ravage is staying a loner for the time being. Glad you like Grant's stuff, 'cause he's this book's new regular penciler. How do you like his design for Ravage's current "evolution?"

Dear *Rants and Raves*,

RAVAGE 2099 is great. Every time I turn the page, something new and exciting happens. It's great! This is my favorite comic. The storyline is great! The art is great! Everything is great! Keep up the good work!

Just one question: does Ravage have any relatives (parents, brothers, sisters)?

Thomas Brown
(Address withheld by request)

You're not the only one who's asked to see Ravage's family, Tom! Now you've seen 'em. What do you think of 'em?

Dear *Rants and Raves*,

RAVAGE 2099 is one of the best comics I've ever read. Stan Lee and Paul Ryan do an exceptional job on this title.

I have some questions: who is Dethstryk? Why does Ravage's power make him so weak? Is Ravage going to create a team anytime soon against Alchemax?

I think giving Ravage powers was the coolest idea Stan Lee ever had. Make Mine Marvel!

Joe Rolle
(Address withheld by request)

We're not ready to reveal Dethstryk's identity quite yet, Joe, but keep reading 'cause you may be able to figure it out! Pat and Tony have some interesting plans for him!

Dear *Rants and Raves*,

I have read every issue of RAVAGE 2099. I like your comic very much. I am a really big fan of Stan's work. Your art is spectacular. Are there going to be any future team-ups with other 2099 characters? This is the first comic book that I have ever collected, and it seems that Ravage is different than most of the other super heroes. Do you have any plans to kill Dethstryk? If so, who will the new villain be? By the way, are you going to be coming out with Ravage annuals any time soon?

Eric Cressey
5345 Moss Creek Lane
Clemmons, NC 27012

Nope, Eric, the closest we come to "annuals" is our experimental title, 2099 UNLIMITED, where *anybody* from the other 2099 books may appear...and then some!

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #11 *As if a run-in with the Public Eye weren't enough, the villain known only as Thanatos makes his diabolical debut!*

DOOM 2099 #9 *A dramatically different tale! How would Doom fare against the greatest monsters of all time...Jack the Ripper, Frankenstein, and worse?*

THE PUNISHER 2099 #8 *Jake has something to live for...and his enemies have given him something to die for!*

NEXT ISSUE

Yikes! Did we say the head of Alchemax would be introduced in the crossover? He shows up *next issue*...along with cameos from the Fearmaster, the Punisher, Doom, and your friendly neighborhood Spidey 2099! Till then, beware "The Stigmata Effect!" You never know when it'll strike!